



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT VALLEY HOSPITAL
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

CONNECTICUT VALLEY HOSPITAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
September 13, 2019
CVH Board Room, Page Hall
Middletown, Connecticut

PRESENT:

Council Members:

Nancy Navarretta, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services; Lawrence McHugh, Chairperson; Lakisha Hyatt, CVH-COO; Celeste Cremin-Endes, CEO, River Valley Services; Kevin Elak, (Alternate) Health Department, City of Middletown; Lieutenant Richard Davis, Middletown Police Department; Lisa Zurolo, CVH- General Psychiatry Division Director; Margaret O’Hagan-Lynch, CVH-Addiction Services Division Director; Joseph Havileck, City of Middletown;

Absent/Excused Council Members:

Mehadin Arafah, David Bauer; Joann Kiernan; Bennett Moehl, Rushford; Daniel Drew, Mayor; Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, Commissioner, Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services; Phillip Pessina;

Call to Order Larry McHugh called the meeting to order at approximately 8:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes Motion was made and seconded to accept the June 14, 2019 minutes as submitted. All were in favor.

Commissioners Update	Deputy Commissioner Nancy Navarretta reported Commissioner Delphin- Rittmon is at a Conference in Washington.	
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TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p><u>Updates from Deputy Commissioner Navarretta :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Task force visit on 9/27 at CVH. Visit went very well. • Regular meeting at LOB is Monday. Dr. Carvalho and Dr. Dike presenting Monday an overview of CVH. • Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon recently announced the intention to open Valley View Café with a TBD open date. The cost will equal budget. • Mary Kate Mason, Legislative Liaison, is preparing to submit the Legislative package. If you have any ideas, thoughts or suggestions, send them to Mary Kate Mason or Deputy Commissioner, Navarretta • DMHAS has received year 2 SOR Grant. This grant is an Opioid award for another 11 Million dollars. This award will sustain many projects including, recovery coaches, recovery support. Recovery citizenship project is occurring. Special block grant for TA to use for co-occurring disorders and citizenship. • Deputy Commissioner Navarretta, attended a conference on harm reduction. Over 300 people attended. The topic was, Induction into medication assisted treatment. SAMSA, CVH, DCF, RVS and many other state representatives were present. <p><i><u>Other Updates from the Deputy Commissioner</u></i></p> <p>Budget-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Better budget than expected. Meetings will occur with each agency around budget. 2. There are a number of retirements in the near future. Recruitment efforts continue. <p>Other Information-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Meetings with unions around multicultural enhancements bringing in six different trainings. 	

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CVH Update	<p style="text-align: center;">Lakisha Hyatt, COO and Acting CEO gave the CVH Update.</p> <p><u>Announcements:</u> Hospital successfully demonstrated 100% mitigation of all identified risks from DPH, Joint Commission successfully in February.</p> <p><u>Regulatory Activities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •We are in compliance with all regulatory standards (CMS & Joint Commission) . The focus now is sustained Survey readiness led by our Quality and Performance Improvement focus is on strategies for sustained Survey Readiness including regular mock survey and environmental compliance monitoring. <p><u>Campus Updates:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Recent tours with DPH Commissioner, as well as the Office of Policy Management went very well. • Dr. Carvalho and Dr. Dike presenting to task force in Hartford on Monday, September 16, 2019. •Key performance indicators. Restraint and seclusion lower than national average and we are seeing a steady decline in incidents of self-injurious behavior. •Advances in integrative medicine: Auricular medicine is one of our more recent additions with proven decrease in stress and aggression. •Expansion of Healing From Within. Offering additional relaxation, aromatherapy and other sensory modalities on inpatient unit. •We have 2 Recovery Support Specialist positions & we are currently recruiting. The RSS's are able to share their own life experience with patients. They will have Individual Therapy as well as groups. •We have Completed Citizenship training and will be running inpatient groups. 	
<u>Sub Committee Reports</u>	The purpose of this report is to inform the Advisory Council of progress being made in	

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<p>Campus Use Report- Fall 2019</p>	<p>meeting the three themes of our original report on Campus Use. The three areas include a review of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Current Campus use by patients, staff and tenants 2. The proposed creation of a campus center 3. The sharing of resources with the community <p><u>Shew Hall</u> Shew Hall continues to be occupied by DMHAS Central Office staff and several tenants. The tenants include Young Adult Services (YAS) and Older Adult Services (OAS), the Regional Mental Health Board, and the Public Defenders Office. A portion of the fifth floor of Shew Hall continues to be occupied by the CVH Infection Prevention staff. The elevator installation project in Shew Hall has been completed. A security viewing room was added to the fifth floor in 2018.</p> <p><u>Beers Hall</u> The four floors of Beers Hall are occupied. The Office of the Commissioner (Safety Education Services) is on the first and third floors, CT Legal Rights Project (CLRP) is on the second floor, and the CT Civil Air Patrol is on the fourth floor. No update</p> <p><u>Whiting Forensic Hospital (Whiting Maximum Security)</u> As of May 1, 2018, the Whiting Forensic Division became the Whiting Forensic Hospital, a separate DMHAS facility. The two services; the Whiting Maximum Security Service and the Dutcher Service are now part of the WFH. The Whiting Service continues to operate at capacity during the year. Unit 5 which was previously de-staffed is now being used for office space. Additional card readers in the administrative area have been completed. This past year security cameras have been added throughout patient occupied areas. Cameras were added to cover the courtyard. A patient care suit was added to unit 5.</p> <p><u>Dutcher Hall</u> The Dutcher Service continues to operate at or near capacity, with six units, for intermediate security. There is one competency Restoration Unit, and five intermediate</p>	

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	<p>secure units. The basement floor continues to house offices for Dutcher staff, a mini treatment mall and a new pharmacy that serves the WFH. The Dutcher courtyard received new security screens. Cameras have been added throughout the building. A pharmacy that serves WFH was built in the basement.</p> <p><u>Woodward Hall</u></p> <p>The TBI/ABI Unit continues to be located on Woodward 2 South (from Battell 2 South). Woodward received an additional washer & dryer, to accommodate additional patient laundering. A large-scale painting completed September 2018. The painting project was complete 9/2018. Anti-ligature project is on going</p> <p><u>DUTTON HALL</u></p> <p>Plans are in the process for the renovation of patient dorms on all Battell units and are currently at the State Fire Marshal’s office waiting approval of the sprinkler design. A large scale painting project was complete 2/2019. Anti-ligature project is ongoing. A project to clean and repair all fan coil units is underway and scheduled for completion 10/2019.</p> <p><u>Merritt Hall</u></p> <p>Merritt houses four (4) Addictions Service Units and one Young Adult Services Unit. All nurse’s stations had enclosures added for safety. Units 3D and 3E remain vacant. The Dental Clinic located in Merritt Hall has undergone ADA improvements with potential extensive renovations in the future. The Merritt Hall HVAC system has been thoroughly cleaned and descaled. New vent panels were installed as part of the remediation process due to the Legionella concerns. A large-scale painting and cleaning project has been completed. A project to replace the flooring, cove base and repaint the halls on the 1st floor is under way. A new generator has been installed and now 100% of the building has back up power.</p> <p><u>Greenhouse</u></p> <p>The CVH Greenhouse continues to have successful sales seasons, and serve as a wonderful means of serving our Middletown community. CVH, in collaboration with DEEP, removed the old glass greenhouse and a smaller replacement structure will be installed to house supplies and to provide workstations for greenhouse projects. A garage has been installed and fitted with electric, heating and cooling.</p>	

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	<p><u>Haviland Hall</u> This building continues to house the patient Commissary, the Ambulatory Care Services Department, the employee clinic, DMHAS Training, and the DMHAS Fiscal Services Bureau. A new fire alarm system has been installed. There are future plans for a building security enhancement badge card reader system.</p> <p><u>Cottages</u> The conversion of vacant residential cottages to office occupancies has been completed. The former CEO cottage continues to host ten (10) patients in the Transitional Living Program. The Young Adult Program continues to use the renovated cottage for a new transitional patient day program.</p> <p><u>Sullivan Pavilion Picnic Area</u> The Sullivan Pavilion continued to have extensive use over the past year with a concert series this summer, as well as multiple picnics and outings. January – September 2019 we held 2 concerts with the Coyote River Band and About Time Band.</p> <p><u>Grounds</u> The facility also continues with its campus beautification process including the creation of new gardens and the replacement of trees. Additional parking was added for the Whiting Forensic staff. The walking and bicycle track and basketball court continue to be part of our health and wellness initiatives for patients and staff. It continues to be very positively received by all! In the spring of 2019, the facility replaced gravestones at the cemetery. A garden sponsored by the Petit family charity was planted near the Dutcher building along Holmes Drive.</p> <p><u>Valley View Cafe</u> The Valley View Café unfortunately remains closed as part of our budget reductions. Patients and staff continue to evaluate potential options for reopening Valley View. The State Board of Mental Health is also in favor of re-opening the VVC and has formed a committee under the direction of the Commissioner to explore options for re-opening. No update</p> <p><u>Noble Hall</u> This beautiful theatre remains vacant and the agency continues to solicit potential</p>	<p>Larry McHugh requests a report from CVH,</p>

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	<p>organizations to renovate, utilize, and occupy this building. Work is being scheduled to replace windows and to complete some exterior repairs and painting. The sprinkler system continues to be serviced and monitored to preserve and protect the building in case of fire.</p> <p><u>CURRENT CAMPUS USE BY TENANTS</u></p> <p><u>Leak Hall</u> This building continues to be occupied by DMHAS River Valley Services (RVS). RVS continues to provide residential and outpatient programs and the Mobile Crisis Unit. A new generator was installed this past year. RVS also has programs located in Dutton Hall.</p> <p><u>Russell Hall</u> This building houses the Office of the Commissioner (OOC) Forensic unit, the Employee Fitness Center and Wheeler Clinic Alternatives to Incarceration (AIC). Additional offices were renovated for the OOC Forensic Unit. Security has been upgraded with the installation of card readers on all perimeter entrance doors.</p> <p><u>Shepard Home</u> In May of 2019 Shepard Home was renovated into 32 room housing facility for the homeless veterans. The building has been sold to a non-profit entity and Columbus House will operate the new housing unit. The facility which once housed nursing students when originally built was also a 70 bed transitional housing program 1989 – 2014, is now beautiful one and two bedroom units for our veteran heroes.</p> <p><u>EDDY Home</u> Eddy Home continues to serve as a homeless shelter and alternative to incarceration program operated by the Connection, an area nonprofit group. A new security system and an emergency lighting system have been installed. A large scale utility system upgrade is being scheduled to replace the existing electrical system.</p> <p><u>Sharing of resources with the city:</u> The campus continues to host the Middletown Summer Recreation league basketball program and other city basketball competitions in the Ray Barnes Memorial Courts. Gilead continues to enjoy and share in using CVH’s baseball field for their patient programs. Page Hall continues to operate as a conference center for DMHAS, other state agencies, and</p>	<p>related to CVH buildings not in use and the possible cost of repairs. This is to be presented at the next Advisory Council Meeting on, December 13, 2019.</p>

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	<p>community groups. CVH continues to open its campus to the public for the annual Middletown fireworks display. We continue to seek collaboration opportunities for our Middletown neighbors to enjoy our beautiful campus.</p> <p><u>Creation of a Campus Center</u></p> <p>Page Hall continues to be used for patient activities such as the Boutique Consignment, Hair Salon, and collaboration with BESB for our local “neighborhood” store, Physical Therapy and our Community Bank. Page Hall also provides 5 training spaces for State agencies. The Pharmacy continues to operate on the second floor of Page Hall. A plan remains to construct two court areas: one will be for Probate Court and one will be for PSRB (Psychiatric Security Review Board) hearings. This will remove functions out of crowded patient building in Battell Hall areas which can be better utilized for patient events and other functions. The new locations will provide greater privacy and security for court related services. The Page Hall building has received badge reader security enhancements on the third floor in the Executive Suites and Library and on the second floor in the Human Resource area. A new building generator which will supply Page Hall with emergency electrical power has been installed. The pharmacy will continue to have its own emergency generator. A security guard and a security desk are now located at the main entrance. Renovations will begin to create 6 new offices on the second floor of Page Hall.</p>	
Other Business	None	
Next Meeting	<p><i>The next meeting will take place on Friday, December 13, 2019</i> The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 a.m.</p>	